

D E P O S I T I O N

I, FERDINAND Z. EMIZ of WOTJE ATOLL, MARSHALL ISLANDS, being duly sworn, depose and say that I am now employed as an interpreter at Naval Air Base No. 3234, MAJURO ATOLL. I was attending school in Japan until 1938 when I returned to the MARSHALL ISLANDS, JALUIT ATOLL.

AFFIANT further states that in August, 1938 he went to WOTJE ATOLL and was employed as an assistant to a surveyor who was taking measurements of the different islands. The Japanese commenced construction on the airfield at WOTJE in June 1939. About fifty Japanese were employed on this job. The complement there consisted of three officers and five chiefs. Three local natives were hired to construct a Japanese prison camp. Natives were paid one yen a day. Construction of the prison camp was completed in October, 1939 and the same month prisoners came from Japan to finish their sentences in the WOTJE prison camp. After the arrival of the Japanese prisoners all Native labor with the exception of ten men and five women were returned to ORMEJ island, WOTJE ATOLL.

AFFIANT further says that in November, 1939 all trees on WOTJE island, WOTJE ATOLL were cut down so that the airfield could be constructed. About this time all prisoners (over two thousand) were returned to Japan and about one thousand Koreans and about two thousand Japanese laborers arrived at WOTJE to continue the work on the airstrip. Native laborers were again drafted thru the headman of each island.

AFFIANT further says that he saw large quantities of cement, asphalt and other construction material being delivered at WOTJE island, WOTJE ATOLL for use on the airstrip. Before construction was completed, in February 1942 an American plane bombed and strafed the island. In the night Native laborers were set to work to repair the damage.

AFFIANT further says that Native labor in 1941 was paid 85 sen a day. They were employed as masons, bricklayers and carpenters. Sickness was no excuse to

stop working. A Native was obliged to work for the Japanese. If he refused to work he usually suffered beatings and sometimes was sent to prison.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAITH NOT.

/s/ FERDINAND Z. EMIZ
AFFIANT.

I, FERDINAND Z. EMIZ, AFFIANT, say that I have read the above and foregoing by me subscribed and that the same is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

/s/ FERDINAND Z. EMIZ
FERDINAND. Z. EMIZ.

Before me, an officer authorized to administer oaths appeared the affiant whose name is subscribed above, this 14th day of March, 1946.

/s/ FRANK E. O'REILLY
Lieutenant, U.S.N.R.

證 言

Doe 6030

私儀マーシャル群島 ウォトエ アトルノ住民 FERDINAND
ノ、ロニーノ宣誓ノ上證言致シマス 私ハ現在マエロ アトル
海軍航空基地第三三三四號ノ通譯トシテ雇ハレテ居リ
マス 私ハ一九三八年マデ日本ニ在學シテ居リマシタガ
同年マーシャル群島 ヤツアトルニ歸リマシタ

宣誓者ハ更ニ曰ク

一九三八年八月、彼ハウォトエ

アトルニ行キ 各島々ヲ測量シテキタ。 測量家ノ助
手ニ雇ハレタ。

日本軍ハ一九三九年六月ニウォトエニ
飛行場ノ建設ヲ開始シタ。 日本人労働者五十人許リガ
コノ仕事ニ働イタ。

ソコノ定員ハ三人ノ士官ト五人
ノ頭ヲ必要トシタ。 土人三百人が雇ハレ、日本ノ監
獄ヲ建築シタ。 土人ハ一日一円支給サレタ。

監獄ノ建築ハ一九三九年十月竣工シタ。 ソシテ同月
ウォトエ監獄デ、ソノ刑期ヲ勤メエゲルタメ日本ヨリ囚
人が來タ。 日本囚人ノ到着後土人ノ労働者ハ男十
人、女五人ヲ除キ全部ウォトエアトルノデネイ島ヘ戻サレタ。

宣誓者ハ更ニ語ヲ継イデ曰ク

一九三九年

十一月 ウォトエアトルノウォトエ島ノ樹木ハ全部伐倒サ
レ飛行場ノ建設ヲスルコトニナッタ。 コノ頃囚人ハ總テ
(三千人以上)日本ニ戻サレ 約千人、朝鮮人ト約二千
ノ日本ノ労働者ガウォトエニ到着シ、滑走路ノ作業ヲ續ケタ。

土人労働者ガ再び各島ノ酋長ヲ通ジ徴發サレタ。

宣誓者ハ更ニ曰ク 滑走路ニ使用ノタメ大量ノセメント
アスファルト其他建築材料ガウォトエ島ニ運ビ込マレルヲ見タ。

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